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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

STATE SECURITY POLICE ACTIVE

ZAISER SUBORDINATE TO SOVIETS -- Stockholm, Morgon-Tidningen, 7 Jan 51

Berlin, January -- Not quite a year ago East Germany was presented with its own MVD, the Staats Sicherheits Dienst, or SSD. Although quite young, the SSD has already become a model instrument of terror, torture, and persecution. Wilhelm Zaisser, the son-in-law of Minister President Wilhelm Pieck, is the top German leader of the SSD, but the Soviet secret police exercise the final authority. Many of the chief functionaries of the SSD are ex-emigrants to the USSR, where they received their training, but technical assistance is also lent by ex-Gestapo men on occasion.

Characteristic of SSD operations is extensive use of informers and extremely brutal "interrogation technique." The SSD functions both as prosecutor and judge, with the "courts" occupying a puppet status somewhere in the middle, but always following the dictates of the SSD.

The SSD regards no East German post as sacrosanct -- scores of prominent political personages, old-line Communists, and others were arrested, some never to be seen again, while others were divested of all authority and privileges. Such was the fate of Paul Merker, once a member of the Politburo and state secretary, who has been forced to return to his former livelihood, that of a waiter. More fortunate were the 60,000 or so who succeeded in escaping to West Germany or West Berlin.

During the first 6 months of 1950, a total of 51,813 prison sentences were meted out in East Germany, 45,046 of them in political trials.

The SSD is also master-minding a vast espionage network being established in West Germany. It is estimated that 4,000-5,000 persons are engaged in this activity. Hundreds of West German Communists and Free German Youth members are now undergoing special sabotage training in East German schools.

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The city of Chemnitz in Sachsen is a center of espionage and sabotage activity, not only for West Germany, but also for Western Europe. The Cominform has set up one of its most important forward headquarters there, and from there emanate orders not only to Frankfurt but also to Paris. -- Willy Brandt

FAST GERMANS TO SET UP INDUSTRIAL POLICE -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet,
23 Jan 51

Berlin, 22 January -- According to DPA, the East German authorities are about to establish a new industrial police of several thousand men, whose function it will be to protect the state-owned factories against sabotage. The guard strength of the Soviet Zone railroads alone will be increased from 7,000 to 14,400 men.

REPORTS SPRING TO SEE EAST GERMAN CONSCRIPTION -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet,
22 Jan 51

Berlin, 21 January -- The West Berlin newspaper Telegraf reports that general conscription will be introduced in East Germany in the spring. Preliminary work is said already to have begun, with the collaboration of the People's Police.

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